

CHANNEL ONE NEWS SHOW SCRIPT 6/05/08

TOPICS COVERED:

- News of the Day
- Principals Walk
- History Myths: Franklin
- Afghan Student

JESSICA: IT'S THURSDAY, JUNE 5TH. I'M JESSICA KUMARI AND CHANNEL ONE NEWS STARTS RIGHT NOW.

TONY: IT'S JUNE AND MANY SENIORS HAVE ALREADY WALKED ACROSS THE STAGE AND COLLECTED THEIR DIPLOMAS. BUT SOME GRADUATES STILL DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY'RE HEADED IN THE FALL.

TONY: THAT'S BECAUSE THEY'RE IN WHAT SOME ARE CALLING "WAIT-LIST LIMBO" WAITING TO SEE IF THEY'LL GET ONE OF THE LAST COVETED SPOTS AT THE SCHOOL OF THEIR CHOICE.

TONY: ADMISSIONS EXPERTS SAY TOP COLLEGES ARE TAKING MORE STUDENTS OFF THE WAIT LIST THIS YEAR. BOSTON COLLEGE TOOK 250 WAIT-LISTED STUDENTS THIS YEAR.

TONY: MORE THAN DOUBLE THE AMOUNT THEY TOOK IN 2007. AND THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MADISON TOOK 375 STUDENTS OFF THEIR WAIT-LIST THIS YEAR COMPARED TO NONE LAST YEAR.

TONY: NO ONE KNOWS EXACTLY WHY, BUT SOME SAY IT'S BECAUSE MORE PEOPLE APPLIED TO MORE COLLEGES THIS YEAR THAN EVER BEFORE.

TONY: HARVARD'S DEAN OF ADMISSIONS CALLED THIS THE MOST UNUSUAL ADMISSIONS YEAR IN ITS HISTORY. SO MANY SCHOOLS STILL HAVEN'T MADE THEIR FINAL DECISIONS, MEANING SOME STUDENTS HAVE A FEW MORE MONTHS OF "WAIT LIST LIMBO" AHEAD.

ANNOUNCER: A MONTH AFTER A DEVASTATING CYCLONE HIT THE SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRY OF MYANMAR, MORE THAN ONE MILLION PEOPLE STILL DON'T HAVE THE HELP THEY NEED.

ANNOUNCER: BUT THE U.S. MILITARY ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THE SHIPS IT SENT TO MYANMAR WITH AID ARE LEAVING FULLY STOCKED WITH FOOD AND SUPPLIES. THE U.S. NEVER RECEIVED PERMISSION FROM MYANMAR'S MILITARY GOVERNMENT TO UNLOAD THE SUPPLIES.

ANNOUNCER: THE U.S. SAYS IT MADE AT LEAST 15 ATTEMPTS TO CONVINCING MYANMAR'S LEADERS TO ALLOW THE MILITARY TO UNLOAD THE BADLY NEEDED SUPPLIES.

ANNOUNCER: THE SHIPS WILL NOW HEAD TO THAILAND. A U.S. MILITARY SPOKESMAN SAYS IF MYANMAR'S GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO ACCEPT AID, THE U.S. WOULD BE PREPARED TO RETURN TO MYANMAR.

TONY: AN UNUSUAL CELEBRATION AT THE FAMOUS CRAZY HORSE MOUNTAIN MEMORIAL IN SOUTH DAKOTA YESTERDAY.

TONY: TWO BLASTS MARKED THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE START OF CONSTRUCTION 60 YEARS AGO.

TONY: WORK ON THE MEMORIAL TO CRAZY HORSE, THE FAMOUS LAKOTA WARRIOR, BEGAN IN 1948 WITH A BLAST TO REMOVE TEN TONS OF ROCK. SO WHAT BETTER WAY TO MARK THE MONUMENT'S ANNIVERSARY THAN WITH ANOTHER BLAST.

TONY: SO FAR, ONLY THE HEAD IS COMPLETE. WHEN CONSTRUCTION ON THE MONUMENT IS FINISHED, IT WILL BE THE WORLD'S LARGEST MOUNTAIN CARVING.

ANNOUNCER: THE PRICE OF JET FUEL HAS DOUBLED IN THE LAST YEAR, LEAVING AIRLINES LOOKING FOR WAYS TO CUT COSTS.

ANNOUNCER: UNITED AIRLINES ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY IT IS GROUNDING 100 OF ITS LEAST FUEL EFFICIENT PLANES. THE COMPANY ALSO PLANS TO CUT UP TO 18 PERCENT OF ITS DOMESTIC FLIGHTS.

ANNOUNCER: ANOTHER WAY AIRLINES ARE LOOKING TO SAVE MONEY CUTTING SERVICE TO SOME CITIES ALTOGETHER.

(SOT: Mo Garfinkle) "You're gonna see cities that are gonna lose a lot of their service, or lose service entirely because it's just not economical in today's environment."

ANNOUNCER: ACCORDING TO USA TODAY, MORE THAN 50 AIRPORTS WILL LOSE A LARGE CHUNK OF THEIR FLIGHTS 13 PERCENT FEWER FLIGHTS TO TULSA, OKLAHOMA 16 PERCENT FEWER TO KANSAS CITY AND 19 PERCENT FEWER FLIGHTS TO OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

JESSICA: HOW FAR HAVE YOU WALKED RECENTLY? IMAGINE WALKING 200 MILES, THAT'S ABOUT 4 HOURS IN A CAR. WELL, WE WANTED TO GIVE A SHOUT OUT TO SOME PRINCIPALS IN PENNSYLVANIA, PART OF "PRINCIPALS FOR CHANGE," THEY STARTED A JOURNEY THIS MORNING TO ENCOURAGE MORE PEOPLE TO GO GREEN.

(SOT: Wright) "Hi I'm Marlayna Wright here at United High School in Armagh, Pennsylvania."

(SOT: Wright) "I'll be speaking with Principal Lewis Kindja and Vice Principal Aaron Steinly. They'll be taking a 212 mile journey in 9 days to Washington, DC to convince people to go green."

(SOT: Wright) "What is the end goal for this trip?"

(SOT:) "By the time we get to DC we hope that we've motivated not only educators but students out there across the United States to understand and to realize that hey you can make a difference; It's as simple as taking a 3 minute shower, turning off the water when you brush your teeth. There are so many thing that you can do as an individual, more importantly as a student to really make an impact."

(SOT: Wright) "Are you prepared for this walk?"

(SOT:) "We've been walking before school and after school. Mr. Steinly and I have been starting to walk at 5am and we average between 7 and 8 miles in the morning before school. After school we walk another 7 or 8 miles. On weekends we've been averaging about 20-25 miles on Saturdays and Sundays."

(SOT:) "Did you expect your trip to get this big?"

(SOT:) "We started this, it was basically just two principals at a small school and we thought hey if we can make some changes here at United who knows maybe it will catch on and get bigger than this."

COMMERCIALS

JESSICA: ALL WEEK WE'VE BEEN BREAKING DOWN SOME WELL KNOWN STORIES IN AMERICAN HISTORY. SO WHAT MYTH-BUSTING SERIES WOULD BE COMPLETE WITHOUT INVESTIGATING THE STORY OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, HIS KITE, AND A BOLT OF LIGHTNING. CHRIS BROWNE HAS PART FOUR IN OUR SERIES GREAT MYTHS OF AMERICAN HISTORY.

(SOT:) "Everyone knows how he made a silk kite and flew it in a thunder storm to prove that lighting and electricity were one in the same."

CHRIS: IT'S A STORY THAT USUALLY BEGINS WITH "EVERYONE KNOWS" ON A STORMY DAY IN 1752, IN COLONIAL PHILADELPHIA BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, SCIENTIST, INVENTOR, AND FOUNDING FATHER STEPPED OUTSIDE WITH SOME STRING, A KEY, AND A KITE.

CHRIS: WHATEVER HAPPENED NEXT, HAS BECOME ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS IMAGES IN SCIENCE.

CHRIS: BUT BECAUSE THERE'S SO LITTLE EVIDENCE OF THE EXPERIMENT, NOBODY REALLY KNOWS WHETHER FRANKLIN EVER FLEW HIS KITE IN A STORM. AND SOME HISTORIANS THINK THE WHOLE STORY IS A HOAX.

CHRIS: SO, TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF FRANKLIN'S LEGENDARY EXPERIMENT, WE WENT RIGHT TO THE SOURCE.

CHRIS: CAN YOU DESCRIBE THE THRILL OF BEING SHOCKED, THE STATIC, FEELING THE SPARK ON YOUR HAND?

(SOT: Franklin impersonator) "Here it was the storm was out there, thunder and lightning all around. And all of a sudden I thought the kite had been hit, I thought that the lightning coming to the kite, I thought there was electricity coming through the string. And I put my finger up next to the key and the spark jumped from the key to my hand! And that's when I knew lightning was electricity. It was a very exciting time."

CHRIS: VERY EXCITING, BUT NOT VERY LIKELY. EVEN IF THE ORIGINAL BEN FRANKLIN REALLY DID FLY A KITE, IT WASN'T HIT BY LIGHTNING. BECAUSE AS NBC WEATHER PLUS METEOROLOGIST JEFF RANIERI TELLS US, OLD BEN WOULD HAVE FELT MORE THAN JUST A SPARK.

CHRIS: WHAT ARE SOME OF THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH DOING THIS KIND OF EXPERIMENT?

(SOT: Jeff Ranieri) "Well, I mean, it's an extremely dangerous experiment. You think about lightning and you think about how deadly it can be."

(SOT: Jeff Ranieri) "By putting yourself out there during a thunderstorm alone is dangerous, but then by flying something up into it, that's just completely ridiculous. It's not something you want to try at home."

CHRIS: ANOTHER MISCONCEPTION; FRANKLIN DIDN'T DISCOVER ELECTRICITY IN 1752, HE SIMPLY FIGURED OUT THERE WAS A CONNECTION BETWEEN LIGHTNING AND ELECTRIC CHARGES.

(SOT:) "I found that silk did not conduct electricity."

CHRIS: SO, WHY ARE SCHOOL KIDS OF ALL AGES STILL TAUGHT THE STORY OF BEN AND HIS KITE?

(SOT:) "All of a sudden there was a bright flash and a great clap of thunder!"

CHRIS: WELL, FOR ONE, IT'S A GREAT STORY. BUT IT'S ALSO ABOUT A GUY WHOSE SCIENTIFIC CURIOSITY AND INNOVATIVE EXPERIMENTS PROVED TO BE, WELL, KEY. WE HAVE A KITE HERE.

(SOT:) "Hardly made of silk."

CHRIS: BUT BEFORE YOU HEAD OFF TO DO YOUR OWN KITE FLIGHT, REMEMBER THESE WORDS OF WISDOM.

(SOT:) "If you're going to play in a lightning storm, hand the string to someone else."

CHRIS: GOOD ADVICE. CHRIS BROWNE, CHANNEL ONE NEWS

JESSICA: TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF OTHER GREAT INNOVATORS! GO TO CHANNEL ONE DOT COM AND CLICK ON MYTH BUSTERS INVENTORS.

COMMERCIAL

JESSICA: FROM A WAR TORN CITY TO A QUIET NEW ENGLAND TOWN. LIFE HAS CHANGED DRAMATICALLY FOR COLLEGE STUDENT ALL BECAUSE OF ONE PERSON'S GENEROSITY.

JESSICA: QIAM AMIRY'S LIFE IN AFGHANISTAN

(SOT: Qiam Amiry) "During the Taliban, I was weaving carpets with my brothers and I did that for 2 or 3 years."

JESSICA: GROWING UP UNDER THE RULE OF THE TALIBAN.

(SOT: Qiam Amiry) "I was weaving carpet, going to school, teaching English, taking classes, calligraphy, drawing."

JESSICA: ART REMAINS ONE OF QIAM'S PASSIONS. BUT NOW HE SKETCHES HERE IN HIS DORM ROOM AT COLBY COLLEGE IN WATERVILLE, MAINE.

JESSICA: QIAM MADE IT FROM THE STREETS OF KABUL TO THIS QUIET NEW ENGLAND CAMPUS SOME 64 HUNDRED MILES AWAY WITH THE HELP OF THIS MAN INVESTMENT GURU SHELBY DAVIS.

(SOT: Shelby Davis) "Having more international students on campus, intermingling and sometimes rooming with Americans is a good way to spread culture and understanding among the university students."

JESSICA: QIAM IS ONE OF 80 DAVIS SCHOLARS AT COLBY. THE PROGRAM PROVIDES COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS FROM THE U.S. AND ABROAD.

(SOT: Davis) "One of our goals is not just to educate bright international students but it's also to educate Americans about the world through these students."

JESSICA: THE PROGRAM BEGINS IN HIGH SCHOOL. PARTICIPANTS SPEND THEIR JUNIOR AND SENIOR YEARS AT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS CALLED UNITED WORLD COLLEGES, LIKE THIS ONE IN MONTEZUMA, NEW MEXICO. STUDENTS WHO DO WELL HERE EARN SCHOLARSHIPS FOR COLLEGE.

JESSICA: IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY THAT'S HELPED CHANGE QIAM'S OUTLOOK ON LIFE.

(SOT: Qiam Amiry) "I'm thinking really big and some people might laugh. I'm thinking about changing the world."

JESSICA: ONE WAY HE'S DOING THAT, RAISING MONEY TO HELP OTHER AFGHAN STUDENTS STUDY ABROAD.

(SOT: Qiam Amiry) "Now I'm thinking about how can I help other people to get the chance that I got?"

JESSICA: OK GUYS! TOMORROW IS THE LAST SHOW OF THE SEASON BUT BEFORE WE SIGN OFF FOR SUMMER, WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT STORY, COVERED BY CHANNEL ONE THIS YEAR, HAS BEEN THE MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU?

JESSICA: GO TO CHANNEL ONE DOT COM AND CLICK ON YOUR TURN TO WEIGH IN, WE JUST MAY READ YOUR COMMENTS ON OUR LAST SHOW TOMORROW! THAT DOES IT FOR CHANNEL ONE NEWS. I'M JESSICA KUMARI, I HOPE YOU HAVE A GREAT DAY.